



Civil Air Patrol

Commander: **Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda**
Headquarters: **Maxwell AFB, Ala.**
Web address: **www.cap.gov**

Mission

Established in 1941, the Civil Air Patrol provides vital operational capabilities in support of aerial and ground search and rescue, disaster relief, communications support, counterdrug and homeland security missions.

Responsibilities

Conducts 95 percent of all inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley AFB, Va. Builds strong citizens for the future by providing leadership training, technical education, scholarships and career education to young men and women, ages 12 to 21, in the CAP Cadet Program and grades kindergarten through college in the CAP School Enrichment

Program. Promotes and supports aerospace education, both for its members and the general public. Supports the Air Force with the world's largest fleet (530) of single-engine, piston aircraft; operates the most extensive national communications network and maintains a fleet of more than 1,000 emergency services vehicles.

People

Officers	33,768
Cadets (ages 12-21)	22,747
Total	56,515

Organization

There are 52 wings in CAP, one for each state, the

District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, with more than 1,700 units across the United States.

A wing is composed of its headquarters and units in its geographical boundaries. The squadron is the community-level organization of CAP. There are three types of squadrons: senior squadron (composed of senior members); cadet squadron (composed primarily of cadets with a minimum of three senior members); and composite squadron (composed of senior members and cadets, and conducts senior member and cadet program activities). There is also a unit known as a flight, which is the smallest CAP membership. Typically a flight is organized in sparsely populated areas where there are insufficient numbers of individuals to make up a squadron.



courtesy photo